

PATENT  
 Attorney Docket No. HILL 102

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:  
 Ernst-Walter Hillebrand

International Application No.:  
 PCT/EP99/05995

International Application Filing Date:  
 August 16, 1999

International Priority Date:  
 August 16, 1999

For: PASSIVATION METHOD FOR ZINC-  
 NICKEL LAYERS

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Please enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination  
 and calculation of the filing fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

3 (Amended). The method of claim 1 characterized in that a  
 conversion coat is applied to the zinc/nickel coat.

5 (Amended). The method of claim 1 characterized in that a  
 coat of dry lubricant is applied.